

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 13, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 13, to read as follows:

Thymic epithelial (TE) activation and flow cytometry. TE750 cells treated with IFN- γ or media alone, and with brefeldin A or media alone were washed in media and counted on a Coulter Counter (Coulter Electronics, Hialeah, FL). For intracellular staining, 1×10^6 cells were treated with 0.05% ~~Tween~~ TWEEN 20 (a surfactant) in FACS LYSE (a lyse/wash assistant) (Beckton Dickinson) for 1 h at room temperature. Cells were washed x 3 (PBS) and incubated with saturating amounts of K12-A1 mab (1 h; RT). Cells were washed x 3 and resuspended with FITC-conjugated goat-anti mouse Ig (1:10 x 1 h; RT). Samples were analyzed using a ~~FACStar^{Plus}~~ FACSTAR^{PLUS} flow cytometer (Becton-Dickenson, Mountain View, CA). Specifically, 5000 viable events were analyzed using a forward and side scatter gate in CellQuest softward (Becton Dickinson).

Before the Figures, insert the Sequence Listing submitted herewith.